GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3221
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2004
VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS
Kulaste Shri Faggan Singh

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a): whether the voluntary organizations working in the field of water, health and primary education etc. which are considered to be the basics of the core development of Scheduled Tribes are being deprived of the grants;

(b): if so, the reasons therefor and the basis on which this decision was taken; (

(c) the names of the schemes likely to be affected as a result of the works of these organizations stalled in compliance with the order issued in this regard; and

(d) the alternative arrangements made by the Government to continue the ongoing work in the aforesaid fields if the original mechanism is affected?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH)

(a) to (d) : The schemes to provide water, health and primary education are still in operation. The Ministry decided to review the ongoing projects sanctioned under the schemes of Grant in aid to Voluntary Organizations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes, Educational Complexes in Low Literacy Pockets for the development of Women Literacy in Tribal Areas and Vocational Training Centres in Tribal Areas as per the criteria indicated below:

`(1) The projects sanctioned to the Established Voluntary Agencies like Rama Krishna Mission, Bharat Sevashram Sinagh and the like have since been running in tribal areas and their continuation in the areas is still felt necessary, these projects of EVAs would continue.

(2) To discontinue the ongoing projects either not located in ITDP/MADA/Cluster areas or in areas where such facilities through State/Central Govt. run schemes are already in existence.

(3) To discontinue such ongoing projects whose Inspection Reports from State Govt. or Quarterly Progress Report from NGO are not received regularly.

(4) To discontinue the projects which have not been found running satisfactorily as per report of the State Govt. or Ministry officials.

(5) The organizations running more than one project under a scheme or under different schemes of the Ministry may be allowed to continue preferably only one project, most suited to the area.

(6) The organisations running projects of other Ministries along-with the projects of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs would be discouraged.

(7) The organization running projects satisfactorily in tribal areas and in such other areas that do not have similar facilities provided under these projects through State/Centre run Schemes/programmes to continue their projects.`

This was necessary because it was observed that various organizations were running multiple projects, many in non-Tribal areas and often duplicating government schemes. The benefits to the tribals were not commensurate. The Project Screening Committee reviewed the ongoing projects and recommended for continuation of 518 projects run by 235 voluntary organizations in its meeting held on 08.11.2004. The Ministry has accepted the recommendation of the committee.